

ABSTRACT:

The present invention relates to a data processing device (100) as well as to a method of operating a data processing device, notably a chip card, which includes an integrated circuit (10) which executes useful arithmetic operations, notably cryptographic operations, in dependence on a first clock signal. Under random control a second clock signal is derived from the first clock signal so as to be applied to the integrated circuit (10) instead of the first clock signal while distances between clock edges of the second clock signal vary at random in time. To this end, there is provided a clock control unit (14) which is connected to the integrated circuit (10) as well as a random generator (12) which is connected to the clock control unit (14), the clock control unit (14) being constructed in such a manner that it generates a second clock signal (20) in dependence on the random generator (12) and the first clock signal (18), which second clock signal varies at random and controls the integrated circuit (10).

(Fig. 1)